

4472 '01 FEB 15 P3 :13
RR#1 Box 4421
Sedgwick, ME 04676
February 12, 2001

FDA Commissioner
Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket # OOD- 1598
Docket# OON- 1396

Dear Sir:

The proposed policies are inadequate to guarantee GE food safety and informed consumer choice. Pre-market testing is necessary to document food safety and to disprove public suspicions of corporate indifference. As "voluntary labeling" tacitly endorses non-labeling, genetically engineered components would be **untrackable** should problems arise, and consumer resentment at being disenfranchised will rise. The testing and labeling requirements of other countries and the recommendations of scientific and consumer organizations in the United States should guide the Food and Drug Administration toward a strong stance on product safety and consumer rights with respect to genetically engineered food.

Respectfully yours,

Elizabeth E. Legum
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OOD-1598

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